

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 09/849,979 Confirmation No.: 1858
Applicant : Ganesan, et al.
Filed : May 8, 2001
Art Unit : 3625
Examiner : Matthew S. Gart
Atty Docket No. : 23952-0127

COMMENTS ON STATEMENTS OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sirs:

The above-identified patent application was issued a Notice of Allowance on November 11, 2006. Applicants respectfully submit the following comments on the Reasons for Allowance (“Reasons”) accompanying the Notice of Allowance.

Applicants wish to clarify that allowed independent Claims 63 and 74 do not “require that the designation of the recipient, the e-mail address, is made by the donor” as the Examiner states in the Reasons. Applicants respectfully direct attention to Claim 63 reciting the step of “receiving, via a network, a request to send an electronic greeting card and to make an associated monetary gift in an amount, on behalf of a requesting donor to a designated recipient” (emphasis added) and to Claim 74 reciting “a communications port configured to receive a request to send an electronic greeting card and to make an associated monetary gift in an amount, on behalf of a

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requesting donor to a designated recipient, via a network” (Emphasis added). Accordingly, Applicants respectfully clarify that the designation of the recipient in Claims 63 and 74 need not be performed by a donor, rather the designation may be performed “on behalf of” a donor.

Additionally, Applicants wish to clarify that allowed independent Claims 68 and 79 do not require that “the donor generates the electronic greeting card and forwards it to the sponsoring merchant” as the Examiner states in the Reasons. Claim 68 does not recite the requirement that the donor generates or forwards the card. The only role recited by the donor is that the step of “receiving, via a network, a request to send an electronic greeting card and to make an associated monetary gift in an amount” is done “on behalf of a requesting donor” Similarly, Claim 79 does not include the requirement that the donor generates or forwards the card. The donor’s only role recited in Claim 79 is having a “communications port configured to receive a request to send an electronic greeting card and to make an associated monetary gift in an amount, on behalf of a requesting donor to a designated recipient” (Emphasis added). Accordingly, Applicants respectfully clarify that the generation and forwarding of the electronic greeting card in claims 68 and 79 may be performed by a party other than the donor.

Applicants hereby clarify the Examiner’s explanation of the donor’s role in independent Claims 63, 68, 74, and 79.

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Respectfully submitted,



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